



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

*Handwritten signature/initials*

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/039,331	11/07/2001	William B. Noble	RTN-139PUS	1499

22494 7590 07/16/2004

DALY, CROWLEY & MOFFORD, LLP  
SUITE 101  
275 TURNPIKE STREET  
CANTON, MA 02021-2310

EXAMINER

TRAN, TAM D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2676

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2004

*Handwritten number 10*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/039,331

Applicant(s)

NOBLE ET AL.

Examiner

Tam D Tran

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-12, 14 and 17-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 13, 15, 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7, 9-12, 14, 17-27, are rejected under 35 U. S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. (USPN 5553209) in view of Hayashida et al. (USPN 6067502), hereinafter simply Johnson and Hayashida.

2. In regard to claims 1, 17, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus comprising: selecting a map portion containing one or more map display symbols on a computer map display; see col.2 lines 1-5; Johnson does not teach symbol expansion display. However, Hayashida teaches presenting a symbol expansion display having information associated with the one or more map display symbols on the computer map display, wherein the symbol expansion display is displayed in combination with the one or more map display symbols. See Fig.69, Fig. 40-48, col.64 lines 25-42. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the symbol expansion display of Hayashida into the map display symbols of Johnson because the combination features

Art Unit: 2676

of map display of Hayashida and Johnson would provide reducing and magnifying feature for map display. See Fig. 40-48, col.37 lines 27-37.

3. In regard to claim 2, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting comprises: pointing to a map display symbol with computer pointing device. See col.3 lines 14-20.

4. In regard to claim 3, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting comprises: selecting a map portion of the computer map display containing the one or more map display symbols with the computer pointing device. See col.3 lines 5-20.

5. In regard to claim 4, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the presenting comprises: relating the one or more map display symbols to one or more map symbol records retained in a computer memory, each containing record components; selecting one or more record components from among the one or more map symbol records; and formatting the one or more selected record components for the symbol expansion display, presenting at least one or more symbol expansion graphics and one or more symbol expansion data with the selected record components in the symbol expansion display in combination with the one or more map display symbol. See col.4 lines 18-65.

6. In regard to claims 5, 21, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting one or more record components comprises: selecting one or more record graphics components of the one or more map symbol records. See col.3 lines 14-25.

Art Unit: 2676

7. In regard to claim 6, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting the one or more record components comprises: selecting record data of the one or more map symbol records. See col.3 lines 14-25.

8. In regard to claim 7, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting record data comprises: filtering the record data of the one or more map symbol records to provide the one or more symbol expansion data corresponding to a selected record data type. See col.3 lines 25-35.

9. In regard to claim 9, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting the record data comprises: filtering the record data of the one or more map symbol records to provide symbol expansion data corresponding to a selected record data range. See col.3 lines 25-35.

10. In regard to claim 10, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the selecting the record data comprises: algorithmically combining map symbol records to provide the one or more symbol expansion data. See col.3 lines 25-35.

11. In regard to claims 11, 19 Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein formatting comprises: providing the one or more symbol expansion graphics, movable by the user on the computer map display, and associated with the record graphics components of the one or more map symbol records. See col.1 lines 15-22.

12. In regard to claims 12, 20, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein formatting further comprises: providing the one or more symbol

Art Unit: 2676

expansion data, movable by the user on the computer maps display, and associated with the record data components of the one or more map symbol records. See col.2 lines 60-67.

13. In regard to claim 14, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein formatting comprises: providing a lead line from the map portion to the symbol expansion display where the lead line moves in accordance with the position of the symbol expansion display. See col.3 lines 5-13.

14. In regard claim 18, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the presentation processor comprises: a computer memory having one or more map symbol records stored therein; a relation processor which relates the one or more map display symbols to one or more map symbol records retained in the computer memory; a selection device for selecting one or more record components from among the one or more map symbol records; and a display processor which receives and formats each of the one or more record selected components for presenting at least one or more symbol expansion graphics and one or more symbol expansion data in the symbol expansion display in combination with the one or more map display symbols. see col.7 lines 39-58.

15. In regard to claims 22, 25, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein the computer map display is displayed at a first scale and the symbol expansion display is displayed in combination with the computer map display at first scale. See col.5 lines 20-27.

Art Unit: 2676

16. In regard to claims 23, 24, 26, 27, Johnson teaches a symbol expansion method and apparatus, wherein each of the one or more symbol expansion graphics is associated with a lower level of hierarchy of one of the one or more map display symbols. See col.5 lines 41-51.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 8, 13, 15, 16, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **703-305-4196**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **703-308-6829**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Art Unit: 2676

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Tam Tran

*TT*  
Examiner

Art unit 2676

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kee M. Tung', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Kee M. Tung**  
**Primary Examiner**